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DE RUEHSO #1019 2641045
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O 211045Z SEP 06
FM AMCONSUL SAO PAULO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5797
INFO RHEHNSC/NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL WASHDC IMMEDIATE
RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA PRIORITY 6852
RUEHRI/AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO PRIORITY 7445
RUCPDO/USDOC WASHDC 2575

UNCLAS SAO PAULO 001019

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STATE INR/R/MR; IIP/R/MR; WHA/PD

DEPT PASS USTR

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TAGS: [KMDR](#) [OPRC](#) [OIIP](#) [ETRD](#) [BR](#)

SUBJECT: EAST ASIA AND PACIFIC: COUP IN THAILAND; SAO PAULO

"Coups in Thailand"

Leading national circulation daily liberal Folha de S. Paulo (9/21) editorialized: "The coup d'tat in Thailand is not a surprise. For months there were rumors in Bangkok that the military might overthrow Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra.... His 'mistake,' which seems to have irritated the military command and caused the crisis, was to try to increase his influence in the Armed Forces by promoting some young officials who were his friends.... The only good news about the coup is that there have not been casualties so far. It is deplorable that after 15 years, a period in which democracy seemed to be finally established in Thailand, the country is once again facing the problems of a coup d'tat. If Thaksin was really unworthy to occupy the post, he should be removed by elections or by the institutions, not by a general's ambition."
McMullen